

Annual Operating Instructions

Cub River Cattle Allotment

2011

I. Livestock Management:

Table 1. Permitted Use

	Permitted no.	Season of Use*	Kind	Non-Use #'s
Cub River Stock Association	634	June 11-September 30	Cattle-cow/calf	

* These dates are tentative and may change due to range conditions.

II. Grazing Management:

Station Creek will be used early season for 15 days. The cattle will then move into Worm Creek pasture. As utilization is reached, cattle will move to Worm Basin and then to Rocky Bench/Carter Creek – Cub River. Livestock should be completely removed from previous unit within a week of scheduled move.

Table 2. Grazing Rotation:

Worm Creek	Station Creek	Worm Basin	Rocky Bench/Carter Creek-Cub River
(2) 6/26-7/22	(1) 6/11 – 6/25	(3) 7/23 – 8/26	(4) 8/27- 9/30

These dates are only guidelines and annual monitoring indicators should trigger pasture moves, not dates.

III. Grazing Standards and Guides:

Standards and Guides covering the allotments are found in the *2003 Revised Forest Plan for the Caribou National Forest* or the *South Bear River Range Allotment Management Plan Revisions Final Environmental Impact Statement* and are now made part of your permit. The proper use standards/triggers for this allotment are listed in the tables below. Your livestock must be removed from an area when the allowable forage utilization levels are reached in either the uplands or the riparian areas. The utilization standards will apply to, both native and desirable non-native key species. Stubble heights on riparian areas will have to be adjusted to meet percent utilization standards if non-native species such as red-top or Kentucky blue grass are monitored. Monitoring of use will include using utilization cages, utilization scales/gauges, ocular estimates or a combination of these three.

A. The standards in Table 1 below are the riparian forage utilization standards that will be applied.

Season of Use	Proper functioning Condition (% Stubble Height)	Functioning at Risk (high to moderate) (% stubble height)	Functioning at Risk (Low) to Non Functioning (% Stubble Height)	Non Functioning (States C&D) (% Stubble Height)
Spring	65/2	55/3	45/4	55/3
Summer	55/3	45/4	35/5	45/4
Fall	45/4	35/5	20/6+	35/5

If it is determined that bank disturbance/alteration, greenline stubble height or woody/shrubby species utilization should replace the utilization triggers listed above, it will be addressed in the site specific standards below. Riparian site specific standards will be established when a Proper Functioning

Condition (PFC) rating is conducted on the riparian area. The site specific standards for riparian areas come directly from the PFC rating and the Grazing Implementation Guide dated 12/28/2005. If a site specific PFC rating has not been conducted on a riparian area, standards for the area will be established by the Range Specialist on the allotment. The Range Specialist will follow the standards listed in Table 1 above until a PFC rating has been completed.

Aquatic influence zone (AIZ) will be measured to determine utilization in riparian areas on the allotment. AIZ – the area encompassing aquatic and riparian ecosystems.

Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) – The condition of a resource, when they are dynamic and resilient to disturbances to structure, composition and processes of their biological or physical components. High, moderate, low indicate the direction

Site-specific riparian standards for the Cub River Allotment:

Stream	Rating	Forage Utilization Standard*
Worm Creek	Functional-At-Risk/Moderate (majority)	3”/4”/5” AIZ- Stubble Height
Cub River	Functional-At-Risk/Moderate	3”/4”/5” AIZ –Stubble Height
Carter Creek	Non functional	4”/5”/6” AIZ-Stubble Height

Upland utilization standards include the following:

Allowed Upland Forage utilization		
	Winter Range	Non Winter Range
Grasses and herbaceous Species (% dry weight)	45	55
Shrubs (Annual leader growth)	20	35

45 percent use on key species and 20 percent use on browse in elk and deer winter range (lower Station Creek is considered winter range) and 55 percent use on key species and 30 percent use on shrubs in non-winter range.

As the season progresses, Forest Personnel will be routinely checking range and forage conditions. If monitoring determines that there is a shortage of forage production, or other associated resources are sustaining unacceptable impacts, early removal of the livestock from the allotment will occur. If livestock are removed from the Forest early, your remaining grazing fees will be credited to next year’s fees. You must request the credit in writing and fill out a credit form from the District Office.

2010 Monitoring Results:

Use in Worm Basin exceeded standards. Cattle were in the unit early, before August 6th. I took measurements on August 5th and stubble height was already at 4 inches. The entire numbers were not in this unit but a sufficient number to utilize the forage. Phil Smith explained they had a lot of trouble early on with the cattle getting down to Cub River so they pushed them here and into Station Creek. Gates are being left open by public users. There were groups of cattle all along Worm Creek.

IV. Range Improvement Maintenance:

- The permittees are responsible for maintaining improvements to standards of repair, orderliness, and safety acceptable to the Forest Officer in charge.
- Maintenance of improvements in the scheduled unit must be completed prior to livestock entering the unit. Improvements in rest units must also be maintained annually. Association members in non-use status are still responsible for their proportionate share of improvement maintenance.
- Because of budget constraints, the control of noxious weed needs to become a joint effort. If you know of any infestations bring them to the attention of the Forest Officer. There may be spray days coordinated on your allotment and your assistance with them would be advantageous for all.

V. Range Improvement Projects:

Continued maple treatment efforts will occur on the allotment in 2011. Clearing along fence line will occur from the ridge between Station and Worm Creek, south along the boundary and east to Cub River. There will be a 100' clearing with a 20' row of piled maple cutting. These rows will be burned. No measures will be made to exclude cattle during the summer. If funding allows, clearing along the Worm Creek division fence (north east) will be completed with the masticator. Permittees will be notified before any burning is initiated.

VI. Trailing and Trucking:

Livestock may be trailed or trucked to the Forest; however, permission will have to be obtained from adjacent private landowners and other public land managing agencies.

VII. Special Instructions:

- ☐ Please become familiar with the terms and conditions of your grazing permit.
- ☐ Salting areas for livestock should not be within 300 feet of any creeks or riparian areas.
- ☐ **Actual Use Forms must be returned by November 30th following the grazing season. Failure to do so may result in Permit Action.**
- ☐ This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a).
- ☐ Livestock counts may be made on turn out dates, arrangements will be made.
- ☐ All AOI's will be posted on the internet. In conjunction with this action all permittees must sign the AOI showing that they have read it and accept the terms, conditions, and management practices presented in it.

VIII. Wolf Management:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is now responsible for managing wolves in the State of Idaho.

The following statement came from the Idaho Fish and Game web site 2/17/11
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/wolves/current.cfm>

Current Legal Status

August 5, 2010, wolf management south of Interstate 90 reverted to a section of the Endangered Species Act known as the 10(j) rule.

Simply put, the 10(j) rule allows states and tribes with approved wolf management plans some options to manage wolves to ensure the health of wild elk and deer herds. It also provides more flexibility to

protect livestock and private property. The rule allows individuals on private or public land to kill a wolf that is in the act of attacking their stock animals (horses, mules, donkey, llamas, goats used to transport people and possessions) or dogs provided there is no evidence of intentional baiting, feeding or deliberate attractants of wolves. On land north of Interstate 90 in Idaho, or land administered by the National Park Service, wolves may be killed only to protect human life.

For wolf sightings, wolf mortalities or wolf management questions, contact:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Idaho State Office - Toll-free at: 877-661-1908

To report suspected wolf depredations on livestock or pets, contact

USDA Wildlife Services: Toll-free at: 866-487-3297 or 208-378-5077

IX. Multiple-use Coordination Requirements:

Livestock should be carefully managed to avoid and reduce conflicts with other resources and uses. Albert and Willow Flat campgrounds receive high volumes of visitors. With improvements on Hillyard Canyon road and Franklin Basin road, traffic will increase.

If you have any questions or comments please contact use the contact information below:

	Office	Cell
Dennis Duehren District Ranger	208- 847-0735	
Kevin Parker Supervisory Range Specialist	208- 547-4356	208-313-7328
Jane Rushane Range Specialist	208-847-0375 208- 847-8939	208- 313- 5683

/s/ Phil Smith 3/16/2011 Cub River Stock Assoc. president
Permittee(s) Signature

/s/ Dennis Duehren 5/23/2011
District Ranger Signature-Dennis Duehren